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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
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9 Debra Morales Ruiz, et al.,
10 Plaintiffs,
11 v.
12 County of Maricopa, et al.,
13 Defendants.
14

No. CV-23-02482-PHX-SRB (DMF)

**ORDER SETTING RULE 16 CASE
MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE**

15 Pursuant to Rule 16 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, a Telephonic Case
16 Management Conference is set for **September 29, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** (half hour set aside)
17 in courtroom 303, Sandra Day O'Connor U.S. Courthouse, 401 W. Washington St.,
18 Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2151. Counsel will receive dial-in instructions via separate
19 electronic communication. In preparation for this Telephonic Case Management
20 Conference,

21 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

22 A. Rule 26(f) Meeting and Case Management Report.

23 **The parties are directed to meet and confer at least ten (10) days before the**
24 **Case Management Conference as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f).**
25 At this meeting the parties shall develop a joint Case Management Report which contains
26 the information called for in section C below.

27 **The parties shall jointly file the Case Management Report with the Clerk not**
28 **less than seven (7) days before the Case Management Conference.** It is the

responsibility of Plaintiffs to initiate the Rule 26(f) meeting and preparation of the joint Case Management Report. Defendants shall promptly and cooperatively participate in the Rule 26(f) meeting and assist in preparation of the Case Management Report.

B. Relevant Considerations.

The parties should be familiar with amendments to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure that went into effect on December 1, 2015, and with the advisory committee notes to those amendments. The parties should be aware that the Rule 26(b)(1) scope of discovery has been changed, that proportionality is now part of the scope of discovery, and that the “reasonably calculated to lead” language has been deleted from the rule. The intent of these changes is not to deprive parties of evidence reasonably needed to prove their claims or defenses, but instead to ensure that discovery is relevant and proportional to the needs of the case.

C. Joint Case Management Report.

The parties’ Joint Case Management Report shall contain the following information in separately numbered paragraphs.

1. The parties who attended the Rule 26(f) meeting and assisted in developing the Case Management Report;
2. A list of the parties in the case, including any parent corporations or entities (for recusal purposes);
3. A short statement of the nature of the case (3 pages or less);
4. The jurisdictional basis for the case, describing the basis for jurisdiction (see the accompanying footnote) and citing specific jurisdictional statutes;¹

¹ If jurisdiction is based on diversity of citizenship, the report shall include a statement of the citizenship of every party and a description of the amount in dispute. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332. The parties are reminded that (1) a corporation is a citizen of the state where it is incorporated and the state of its principal place of business, and (2) partnerships and limited liability companies are citizens of every state in which one of their partners or members resides. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c); *Indus. Tectonics v. Aero Alloy*, 912 F.2d 1090, 1092 (9th Cir. 1990); *Belleville Catering Co. v. Champaign Market Place, L.L.C.*, 350 F.3d 691, 692 (7th Cir. 2003). The parties are further reminded that the use of fictitious parties (“John Doe” or “ABC Corporation”) “casts no magical spell on a complaint otherwise lacking in

1 5. Any parties which have not been served and an explanation of why they have
2 not been served, and any parties which have been served but have not answered or
3 otherwise appeared;

4 6. A statement of whether any party expects to add additional parties to the case
5 or otherwise to amend pleadings (the Court will set a deadline at the Case Management
6 Conference for joining parties and amending pleadings);

7 7. A listing of contemplated motions and a statement of the issues to be decided
8 by these motions (including motions under Federal Rules of Evidence 702, 703, 704, and
9 705);

10 8. Whether the case is suitable for reference to another United States Magistrate
11 Judge for a settlement conference;

12 9. The status of related cases pending before other courts or other judges of this
13 Court;

14 10. A discussion of any issues relating to preservation, disclosure, or discovery
15 of electronically stored information, including the parties' preservation of electronically
16 stored information and the form or forms in which it will be produced (*see* Rules 16(b)(3),
17 26(f)(3));

18 11. A discussion of any issues relating to claims of privilege or work product
19 (*see* Rules 16(b)(3), 26(f)(3));

20 12. A discussion of whether an order under Federal Rule of Evidence 502(d) is
21 warranted in this case;

22 13. A discussion of necessary discovery. This discussion should take into
23 account the December 1, 2015 amendments to Rule 26(b)(1), and should include:

24 a. The extent, nature, and location of discovery anticipated by the parties
25 and why it is proportional to the needs of the case;

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diversity jurisdiction.” *Fifty Assocs. v. Prudential Ins. Co. of Am.*, 446 F.2d 1187, 1191
(9th Cir. 1970) (citations omitted).

1 b. Suggested changes, if any, to the discovery limitations imposed by the
2 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure;

3 c. The number of hours permitted for each deposition. The parties
4 should consider whether a total number of depositions hours should be set in the case, such
5 as 30 total hours for Plaintiffs and 30 total hours for Defendants. Such overall time limits
6 have the advantage of providing an incentive for each side to be as efficient as possible in
7 each deposition, while also allowing parties to allocate time among witnesses depending
8 on the importance and complexity of subjects to be covered with the witnesses.

9 14. A statement of when the parties exchanged or will exchange Federal Rule of
10 Civil Procedure 26(a) initial disclosures;

11 15. Proposed specific dates for each of the following (deadlines should fall on a
12 Friday unless impracticable):

13 a. A deadline for the completion of fact discovery;

14 b. Dates for full and complete expert disclosures under Federal Rule of
15 Civil Procedure 26(a)(2)(A)-(C);

16 c. A deadline for completion of all expert depositions;

17 d. A date by which the parties shall have engaged in face-to-face good
18 faith settlement talks;

19 e. A deadline for filing dispositive motions.

20 16. Whether a jury trial has been requested and whether the request for a jury
21 trial is contested (if the request is contested, briefly set forth the reasons);

22 17. The prospects for settlement, including any request of the Court for
23 assistance in settlement efforts; and

24 18. Any other matters that will aid the Court and parties in resolving this case in
25 a just, speedy, and inexpensive manner as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 1.

26 The parties shall jointly file the Case Management Report with the Clerk not less
27 than **seven (7) days** before the Case Management Conference. It is the responsibility of
28 Plaintiffs to initiate the Rule 26(f) meeting and preparation of the joint Case Management

1 Report. Defendants shall promptly and cooperatively participate in the Rule 26(f) meeting
2 and assist in preparation of the Case Management Report.

3 D. Case Management Order.

4 The Court directs counsel and any unrepresented parties to Federal Rule of Civil
5 Procedure 16 for the objectives of the Case Management Conference. Counsel who will
6 be responsible for trial of the lawsuit for each party, and any party that is not represented
7 by counsel, shall appear and participate in the Case Management Conference and shall
8 have authority to enter into stipulations regarding all matters that may be discussed. A
9 continuance of the Case Management Conference will be granted only for good cause.

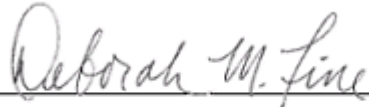
10 As a result of the Case Management Conference, the Court will enter a Case
11 Management Order. The Court fully intends to enforce the deadlines in the Case
12 Management Order. The parties should plan their litigation activities accordingly.

13 E. Other Matters.

14 The parties are expected to comply fully with the Federal and Local Rules of Civil
15 Procedure and to minimize the expense of discovery. The parties should ensure that all
16 filings comply with Local Rules of Civil Procedure 7.1 and 7.2. In addition, in all filings,
17 citations in support of any assertion in the text shall be included in the text, not in footnotes.
18 The Clerk of the Court shall send copies of this order to all counsel of record and to any
19 unrepresented parties.

20 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the participants at the telephonic hearing may
21 not be in a moving vehicle, the telephonic hearing shall not be recorded or
22 broadcasted/rebroadcasted other than by the Court, and all persons who can or will be able
23 to hear the telephonic hearing shall be identified by counsel of record when counsel of
24 record announce their appearance.

25 Dated this 2nd day of September, 2025.

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28 Honorable Deborah M. Fine
United States Magistrate Judge